California Department of Water Resources



July 9, 2002

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DWR Meeting or Exceeding Energy Procurement Needs During Today's Soaring Temperatures

Sacramento – The California Energy Resources Scheduling Division (CERS) of DWR was meeting or exceeding all of its scheduled power demands today for customers of the state's investor owned utilities.

"We were in solid shape today as far as our resources meeting the peak demand in California," said Pete Garris, Deputy Director of DWR. "In anticipation of this very hot week in California, we made sure that we acquired energy not only to meet projected demand but to have some excess in reserve."

As California was experiencing a Stage 1 electrical warning, the CERS division provided reserve energy – which in some critical hours was as much as 400 to 700 megawatts -- to power suppliers serving electricity load in California. One megawatt is enough to power about 750 homes in California.

"We have changed our position in the market 180 degrees from where we started in early 2001," said Garris. "Today, through our long-term contracts and other resources, we can call on energy supplies at a moments notice to meet the needs of customers in the investor owned utilities as well as support overall grid reliability."

The CERS division expects to experience a similar position this week as temperatures are expected to remain high throughout the state.

The CERS division, created by Governor Gray Davis on January 17, 2001, is working aggressively everyday to maintain reliable energy resources for California residents.